DOCUMENT RESUME

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TITLE	Computers on Wheels.
INSTITUTION	Rosemead Elementary School District, CA.
PUB DATE	84
NOTE	2p.; Prepared at Emma W. Shuey School.
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DESCRIPTORS	*Computer Assisted Instruction; *Computer Literacy; *Cross Age Teaching; Demonstration Programs; Elementary Education; *Microcomputers; *Mobile Laboratories; Program Descriptions; Tutoring
IDENTIFIERS	PF Project

ABSTRACT

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THIS DOCUMENT: How does a school provide the computer learning experiences for students given the paucity of available funding for hardware, software, and staffing? Here is what one school, Emma W. Shuey in Rosemead, did after exploratory research on computers by a committee of teachers and administrators. The computers come to the students! Computers are on three mobile carts--one carrying an Apple IIe, the second a Commodore 64, and the third holding six Commodore VIC-20 machines linked to a disk drive. Room was not available for a computer lab or the staffing for such a lab; thus, the necessity for placing computers on "wheels." Student assistants from the 5th and 6th grades roll out the computers from the library each morning to various classes. The program started with the 5th and 6th graders getting familiar with both the operation of each computer and its supporting software. These students now serve as a cadre of tutors to help those in the lower grades. The use of lightweight earphones allows each computer user aural feedback without disturbing other students in the same classroom. The educational goal is to give each student in the school repeated opportunities for learning experiences on the computer. In addition to becoming proficient in basic computer operations, computer-assisted instruction is being accomplished in various subject areas. Starting with the 5th and 6th graders in October, the program expanded to include 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders in January. There have also been community computer nights providing parents and friends with the opportunity to visit the classroom and share their children's learning experiences. In addition, a computer club meets twice a week learning some basics in programing. This computer program--one that sends the computers to the students--has worked very smoothly. Enthusiasm runs high with both students and teachers. Looking to the future, the computer committee seeks to enrich this program even further. This document was selected by the Association of California School Adminstrators (ACSA) Task Force on Public Confidence as descriptive of a promising practice or exemplary project worthy of highlighting for the California educational community. (Author)

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OUTSTANDING PROGRAM DESCRIPTION FORM

Name of School, District or Agency: Emma W. Shuey School
Grade Levels: 1st - 6th

Address: 8472 E. Wells St.
Telephone (818) 287-5221

City: Rosemead
State: CA Zip: 91770

Name of Contact Person: Lewis C. Woodland
ACSA Region: 15

Name of Course, Program, Project or Policy: "Computers on Wheels"

Date of Operation of Program or Project: 10-1-83 to 6-8-84

ED239614

In 300 words or less please describe your program specifically enough for others to follow. Please include your program's
(1) primary purpose (how it benefits students)
(2) participants (grade levels of students, professional staff, community persons, etc)
(3) evaluation data (if available)

How does a school provide the computer learning-experiences for students given the paucity of available funding for hardware, software and staffing? Here is what one school, Emma W. Shuey, in Rosemead did after exploratory research on computers by a committee of teachers and administrators.

The computers come to the students! Computers are on three mobile carts---one carrying an Apple IIE, the second a Commodore 64 and the third holding six Commodore Vic-20 machines, linked to a disk drive. Room was not available for a computer lab or the staffing for such a lab; thus the necessity for placing computers on "wheels". Student assistants from the 5th and 6th grades roll out the computers from the library each morning to various classes. The program started with the 5th and 6th graders getting familiar with both the operation of each computer and its supporting software. These students now serve as a cadre of tutors to help those in the lower grades. The use of lightweight earphones allows each computer user aural feedback without disturbing other students in the same classroom.

The educational goal is to give each student in the school repeated opportunities for learning experiences on the computer. In addition to becoming proficient in basic computer operations, computer assisted instruction is being accomplished in various subject areas.

Starting with the 5th and 6th graders in October, the program expanded to include 2, 3 and 4th graders in January. There have also been community-computer nights providing parents and friends with the opportunity to visit the classroom and share with their children learning experiences. In addition, a computer club meets twice a week learning some basics in programing.

This computer program--one that sends the computers to the students has worked very smoothly. Enthusiasm runs high with both students and teachers. Looking to the future, the computer committee seeks to enrich this program even further.

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NAME Julie Friese DATE 2-7-84

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